

# PRO

This motion, in some human creatures, may be weak in respect to the vicidity of what is taken, so as not to be able to propel it. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*

That overplus of motion would be too feeble and languid to propel so vast and ponderous a body, with that prodigious velocity. *Bentley's Sermons.*

To PROPELND. *v. n.* [*propendo*, Lat. to hang forwards.] To incline to any part; to be disposed in favour of any thing.

My sprightly brethren, I propend to you, In resolution to keep Helen still. *Shakefp.*

PROPENDENCY. *n. f.* [from *propendo*.] 1. Inclination or tendency of desire to any thing.

2. [From *propendo*, Lat. to weigh.] Preconsideration; attentive deliberation; perpendency. An act above the animal actings, which are transient, and admit not of that attention, and propensity of actions. *Hale.*

PROPENSE. *adj.* [*propensus*, Lat.] Inclined; disposed. It is used both of good and bad. Women, propense and inclinable to holiness, be otherwise edified in good things, rather than carried away as captives. *Hooker's Preface.*

I have brought scandal In feeble hearts, propense enough before To waver, or fall off, and join with idols. *Milton.*

PROPESSION. *n. f.* [*propensio*, Fr. *propensio*, Lat. from *propense*.] 1. Inclination; disposition to any thing good or bad.

Some miscarriages might escape, rather through necessities of state, than any propensity of myself to injuriousness. *K. Char.* So forcible are our propensions to mutiny, that we equally take occasions from benefits or injuries. *Gov. of the Tongue.*

Let there be but propensities, and bent of will to religion, and there will be fecundity and indefatigable industry. *South.* It requires a critical nicety to find out the genius or the propensions of a child. *L'Estrange.*

The natural propension, and the inevitable occasions of complaint, accidents of fortune. *Temple.* He afflicts us with a measure of grace, sufficient to overbalance the corrupt propensity of the will. *Rogers.*

2. Tendency. Bodies, that of themselves have no propensions to any determinate place, do nevertheless move constantly and perpetually one way. *Digby.*

This great attrition must produce a great propensity to the putrescent alkaline condition of the fluids. *Arbutnot.*

PROPER. *adj.* [*propre*, Fr. *proprius*, Latin.] 1. Peculiar; not belonging to more; not common.

As for the virtues that belong unto moral righteousness and honesty of life, we do not mention them, because they are not proper unto christian men as they are christian, but do concern them as they are men. *Hooker.*

Men of learning hold it for a slip in judgment, when offer is made to demonstrate that as proper to one thing, which reason findeth common unto many. *Hooker.*

No fence the precious joys conceives, Which in her private contemplations be; For then the ravish'd spirit the senses leaves, Hath her own pow'rs, and proper actions free. *Davies.*

Of nought no creature ever formed ought, For that is proper to th' Almighty's hand. *Davies.* Dufresnoy's rules, concerning the posture of the figures, are almost wholly proper to painting, and admit not any comparison with poetry. *Dryden's Dufresnoy.*

Outward objects, that are extrinsic to the mind, and its own operations, proceeding from powers intrinsic and proper to itself, which become also objects of its contemplation, are the original of all knowledge. *Locke.*

2. Noting an individual. A proper name may become common, when given to several beings of the same kind; as Caesar. *Watts.*

3. One's own. It is joined with any of the possessives: as, my proper, their proper. The bloody book of law You shall yourself read in the bitter letter, After your own fence; yea, though our proper son Stood in your action. *Shakefp. Othello.*

Court the age With somewhat of your proper rage. *Waller.* If we might determine it, our proper conceptions would be all voted axioms. *Glanvil's Sceps.*

Now learn the difference at your proper cost, Betwixt true valour and an empty boast. *Dryden.*

4. Natural; original. In our proper motion we ascend Up to our native seat. *Milton.*

5. Fit; accommodated; adapted; suitable; qualified. In Athens all was pleasure, mirth and play, All proper to the springs, and sprightly May. *Dryden.*

He is the only proper person of all others for an Epic poem, who, to his natural endowments of a large invention, a ripe judgment, and a strong memory, has joined the knowledge of the liberal arts. *Dryden.*

PROPHET. *n. f.* [*prophetes*, Fr. *prophete*, Lat. from *prophetia*.] 1. One who tells future events; a predictor; a foreteller.

Every flower Did as a prophet weep what it foresaw, In Hector's wrath. *Shakefp. Troilus and Cressida.* Tellers of brave prophecies. *Shakefp. King Lear.*

O prophet of glad tidings! finisher Of utmost hope! He lov'd so fast, As if he fear'd each day wou'd be her last; Too true a prophet to foresee the fate, That should so soon divide their happy state. *Dryden.*

God, when he makes the prophet, does not unmake the man. His champions are the prophets and apostles. *Shakefp.* A woman that foretells future events. *Shakefp. Troilus and Cressida.*

He shall split thy very heart with sorrow, And lay poor Marg'ret was a prophetess. That it is consonant to the word of God, so in singing to answer, the practice of Miriam the prophetess, when the answered the men in her song, will approve. *Peacham.*

If my love but once were crown'd Fair prophetess, my grief would cease. *Prior.* PROPHECY. *n. f.* [*prophetia*, Fr. from *prophet*.] 1. Foretelling or foretelling future events.

Say, why Upon this blasted heath you stop our way, With such prophetic greeting. *Shakefp. Macbeth.* The counsel of a wife and then prophetic friend was forgotten. *Watson.*

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Some famous prophetic pictures represent the fate of England by a mole, a creature blind and busy, smooth and deceitful, continually working under ground, but now and then to be discerned in the surface. *Stillingfleet.*

No arguments made a stronger impression on these Pagan converts, than the predictions relating to our Saviour in those old prophetic writings deposited among the hands of the greatest enemies to christianity, and owned by them to have been extant many ages before his appearance. *Addison.*

2. It has of before the thing foretold. The more I know, the more my fears augment, And fears are oft prophetic of th' event. *Dryden.*

PROPHETICALLY. *adv.* [from *prophetical*.] With knowledge of futurity; in manner of a prophecy. He is so prophetically proud of an heroic coddgelling, that he raves in saying nothing. *Shakefp. Troilus and Cressida.*

This great success among Jews and Gentiles, part of it historically true then, and fulfilled afterward, was a most effectual argument to give authority to this faith. *Hammond.*

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PROPHYLACTIC. *adj.* [*prophylaktikos*, from *prophylaxis*.] Preventive; preservative. Medicine is distributed into prophylactic, or the art of preserving health; and therapeutick, or the art of restoring health. *Watts's Logick.*

PROPINQUITY. *n. f.* [*propinquitat*, Lat.] 1. Nearness; proximity; neighbourhood. They draw the retina nearer to the crystalline humour, and by their relaxation suffer it to return to its natural distance according to the exigency of the object, in respect of distance or propinquity. *Ray on the Creation.*

2. Nearness of time. Thereby was declared the propinquity of their desolations, and that their tranquillity was of no longer duration, than those soon decaying fruits of summer. *Brown.*

3. Kindred; nearness of blood. Here I disclaim all my paternal care, Propinquity, and property of blood, And as a stranger to my heart and me Hold thee. *Shakefp. King Lear.*

PROPTIABLE. *adj.* [from *proptiate*.] Such as may be induced to favour; such as may be made propitious. To PROPTIATE. *v. a.* [*proptio*, Lat.] To induce to favour; to gain; to conciliate; to make propitious. You, her priest, declare What off'rings may propitiate the fair, Rich orient pearl, bright stones that ne'er decay, Or polish'd lines which longer last than they. *Waller.*

They believe the affairs of human life to be managed by certain spirits under him, whom they endeavour to propitiate by certain rites. *Stillingfleet.*

Vengeance shall pursue the inhuman coast, 'Till they propitiate thy offended ghost. *Dryden.* Let fierce Achilles, dreadful in his rage, The God propitiate, and the pest alluage. *Pope.*

PROPTIATION. *n. f.* [*proptiation*, Fr. from *proptiate*.] 1. The act of making propitious. 2. The atonement; the offering by which propitioufness is obtained. He is the propitiation for the sins of the whole world. *1 Jo.*

PROPTIATOR. *n. f.* [from *proptiate*.] One that propitiates. PROPTIATORY. *adj.* [*proptiatoire*, Fr. from *proptiate*.] Having the power to make propitious. Is not this more than giving God thanks for their virtues, when a propitiatory sacrifice is offered for their honour? *Stilling.*

PROPTIOUS. *adj.* [*propitius*, Lat. *propice*, Fr.] Favourable; kind. 'T' assuage the force of this new flame, And make thee more propitious in my need, I mean to sing the praises of thy name. *Spenser.*

Let not my words offend thee, My maker, be propitious while I speak! Indulgent God! propitious pow'r to Troy, Swift to relieve, unwilling to destroy. *Dryden.* Would but thy sister Marcia be propitious To thy friend's woes. *Addison's Cato.*

Ere Phœbus rose, he had implor'd Propitious heav'n. *Pope's Rape of the Lock.* PROPTIOUSLY. *adv.* [from *propitius*.] Favourably; kindly. So when a muse propitiously invites, Improve her favours, and indulge her flights. *Roscommon.*

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PROPLASM. *n. f.* [*proplasma*, Lat.] Mould; matrix. Those shells serving as proplasms or moulds to the matter which to filled them, limited and determined its dimensions and figure. *Woodward's Nat. Hist.*

PROPLASTIC. *n. f.* [*proplastikos*.] The art of making moulds for casting. PROPO'NENT. *n. f.* [from *proponens*, Lat.] One that makes a proposal. For mysterious things of faith rely On the propo'nent, heaven's authority. *Dryden.*

PROPORTION. *n. f.* [*proportion*, Fr. *proportio*, Lat.] 1. Comparative relation of one thing to another; ratio. Let any man's wisdom determine by lessening the territory, and increasing the number of inhabitants, what proportion is requisite to the peopling of a region in such a manner, that the land shall be neither too narrow for those whom it feedeth, nor capable of a greater multitude. *Raleigh.*

By proportion to these rules, we may judge of the obligation that lies upon all sorts of injurious persons. *Taylor.* Things high equivalent and neighbouring value By lot are parted; but high heav'n thy share, In equal balance weigh'd gainst earth and hell, Flings up the adverse scale, and thuns proportion. *Prior.*

2. Settled

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In debility, from great loss of blood, wine and all aliment, that is easily assimilated or turned into blood, are proper: for blood is required to make blood. *Arbutnot.*

6. Exact; accurate; just. 7. Not figurative. Those parts of nature, into which the chaos was divided, they signified by dark names, which we have expressed in their plain and proper terms. *Burnet's Theory of the Earth.*

8. It seems in *Shakespeare* to signify, mere; pure. See thyself, devil; Proper deformity seems not in the fiend So horrid as in woman. *Shakefp. King Lear.*

9. [From *propre*, Fr.] Elegant; pretty. Moses was a proper child. *Heb. xi. 23.* 10. Tall; luffy; handsome with bulk. At last the concluded with a sigh, thou wast the properest man in Italy. *Shakefp.*

A proper goodly fox was carrying to execution. *L'Estrange.* 1. Fitly; suitably. 2. In a strict sense. What dies but what has life And sin? the body properly hath neither. *Milton.*

The miseries of life are not properly owing to the unequal distribution of things. *Swift.* There is a fence in which the works of every man, good as well as bad, are properly his own. *Rogers.*

PROPERNESS. *n. f.* [from *proper*.] 1. The quality of being proper. 2. Tallness. PROPERT. *n. f.* [from *proper*.] 1. Peculiar quality. What special property or quality is that, which being no where found but in sermons, maketh them effectual to save souls? *Hooker, b. v. f. 22.*

A secondary essential mode, is any attribute of a thing, which is not of primary consideration, and is called a property. *Watts.* 2. Quality; disposition. 'Tis conviction, not force, that must induce assent; and sure the logic of a conquering sword has no great property that way; silence it may, but convince it cannot. *D. of Piet.*

It is the property of an old finner to find delight in reviewing his own villanies in others. *South's Sermons.* 3. Right of possession. Some have been deceived into an opinion, that the inheritance of rule over men, and property in things, sprung from the same original, and were to descend by the same rules. *Locke.*

Property, whose original is from the right a man has to use any of the inferior creatures, for subsistence and comfort, is for the sole advantage of the proprietor, so that he may even destroy the thing that he has property in. *Locke.* 4. Possession held in one's own right. For numerous blessings yearly shou'd, And property with plenty crown'd, Accept our pious praise. *Dryden.*

5. The thing possessed. 'Tis a thing impossible I should love thee but as a property. *Shakefp.* No wonder such men are true to a government, where liberty runs so high, where property is so well secured. *Swift.*

6. Nearness or right. I know not which is the fence in the following lines. Here I disclaim all my paternal care, Propinquity, and property of blood, And as a stranger to my heart and me, Hold thee. *Shakefp. King Lear.*

7. Something useful; an appendage. I will draw a bill of properties, such as our play wants. *Shakefp. Midsummer's Night's Dream.*

The purple garments raise the lawyer's fees, High pomp and state are useful properties. *Dryden.* Greenfield was the name of the property man in that time, who furnished implements for the actors. *Pope.*

8. Property for propriety. Any thing peculiarly adapted. Our poets excel in grandity and gravity, smoothness and property, in quickness and briefness. *Camden.* To PROPERT. *v. a.* [from the noun.] 1. To invest with qualities. His rear'd arm Crested the world; his voice was property'd As all the tuned spheres. *Shakefp. Ant. and Cleop.*

2. To seize or retain as something owned, or in which one has a right; to appropriate; to hold. This word is not now used in either meaning. His large fortune Subdues and proprieties to his love and tendance All forts of hearts. *Shakefp. Timon of Athens.*

They have here proprieted me, keep me in darkness, and do all they can to face me out of my wits. *Shakefp.* I am too highborn to be proprieted, To be a secondary at controul. *Shakefp. King John.*

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